

Committee on Academic Policy (CAP): Meeting Minutes

Monday, 13 November 2023, 9:00am

Meeting #9 AY2023-2024

Meeting held remotely

Attendees: B. Calli (RBE, CAP chair,), F. Levey (MME), B. Servatius (MA, CITP representative), S. Wodin-Schwartz (MME), A. Gericke (Dean of Undergraduate Studies, ad interim), D. Heilman (CBC, UOAC Representative), S. Levitan '24 (Student representative), J. Dudle (CEAE, EDC Representative), Connor Chartier '25 (Student representative).

Due to scheduled Wellness Day, no meeting was held on Nov 6.

1. Meeting was called to order at 9:02am
2. Minutes from Oct 10 and Oct 23 meetings were approved.
3. Prof. Heilman updated CAP on UOAC efforts to encourage departments to conduct evaluation of MQPs. Department attention to these varies greatly. There was a discussion of who's job is it to monitor MQP reviews and who the data should go to (e.g. governance, UOAC, IR). Dean Gericke will work with UOAC to improve the timeliness of the MQP reviews.
4. Discussion of grading practices continued. It was noted that there is a difference between grading of courses vs projects, particularly larger courses. A discussion ensued. It was noted from the student representatives on the committee that sometimes in ungraded courses, they focus on achieving the learning outcome rather than seeking a number or grade; they focus more on what's being taught. The discussion turned to initiating a conversation with the faculty and also with student groups about the issue of grade inflation, as well as variability in what constitutes a particular grade in different areas of the curriculum. Further community discussion can take place to determine if any changes in grading standards or practice may need to happen. CAP will present at an upcoming faculty meeting, solicit feedback towards making recommendations on policy. At next meeting, the Committee will discuss what to present at this meeting towards facilitating the best discussion.
5. Meeting was adjourned at 9:56am.